

soul? Everything. I had a joy before Jesus was mine, but not such a joy as I have now, and what is still sweeter and better than all, Jesus is such an one that he can not be exhausted in helping one of his own children, and every day his power to bless grows as we embrace him more and more. I have also tried to reach fallen men and women, I have tried to go to the drunkard and persuade him to become a sober man, I have tried to teach the careless, indifferent and immoral person about a godly and righteous life, and you say what has Jesus been to you in this work? He has been my teacher, my guide, my helper, and I have succeeded in doing some successful work. I have succeeded in building up, as pastor, two large congregations of godly men and women. What has Jesus been to me here? My constant helper. Without him I would have failed; without him I would have given up the work long ago. In an hour of sore trouble, sickness and death of dear friends, Jesus comforted me by his words of cheer.

King's Children.

ARE WE DOING OUR BEST?

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To definitely answer the above question, would necessitate upon the part of the answerer, a knowledge of the possibilities and opportunities now open to and the extent to which they are seen—seized and used by our young people.

The answerer would have to consider also, the youthfulness of our organization—the prejudices and indifference against which it has had to contend—the division of workers, accompanied with a loss of effort and enthusiasm and the failure to hold conferences of our own, or participations in those held by other than similar organizations, where workers are brought face to face with each other, experiences related, methods compared and suggested, and the enthusiasm for the work engendered.

To consider all these would be impossible within the limits of this article. And not being even acquainted with the work which our young people thro-out the church may be doing, we could not, if we would give a definite *yes* or *no* in reply to our question, "Are we doing our best?" May we not rather present, tho of necessity briefly, the opportunities and possibilities now open to such work, their potency for Christ and the church, the necessity of seizing and using them *now*, together with some suggestions of what a *live* society *can* and *does* do for the church.

The age of possibilities and opportunities. Some one has fitly characterized this age as such. Doors great and wide are open and opening to the church. Before the church of to-day stands the opportunity of the ages.

Never since Christ, has the world been as ripe for him as to-day. Never has there been a time, when labor and money expended for him, accomplished as much as it will to-day. Never until this present age has it been possible to fully obey Christ's last command of going into all the world and preaching the Gospel to the whole creation.

So thorough has been the work of the discoverer and explorer that there are no longer veiled continents and undiscovered islands. If Africa be yet known as the "Dark Continent," it is because of the woe and misery of its people, rather than its not being fully known to the world. Even the frozen Poles have been forced, by Dr. Nansen, to unbar their icy doors, and to-day the flag of the discoverer waves to the breezes from the summit of the crystal battlements. For the first time in his history man knows his own habitation.

Inter communication has made impossible foreign lands and peoples. "There are no foreign fields," exclaimed a recent mission lecturer. By the modern methods of transmitting knowledge and transporting persons and property, the world has been drawn very near together; distance has been annihilated.

From nations of the world being brought so near together and being in constant intercourse with each other, the pulse and face of the world has been quickened, life made larger and the world being prepared for a universal religion.

Civilization, the great fore-runner of missions, has like a John the Baptist gone before to prepare the way. It has made impossible such crimes as cannibalism and infanticide, such rites as practiced in the Juggernaut and Moriah Grove and such tortures as the rack, the slow fire and the Suttee Pyre.

Science has also cleared the world of a vast amount of superstition and rubbish, thus preparing the way for the growth of a pure spiritual Christianity. It reveals to the Hindoo the absurdities of his cosmogony, and his religion and cosmogony being so built into each other, that to lose faith in the one means a loss in the other.

Such is the condition of many a Hindoo worshiper to day. Said a Hindoo who had been converted to Christianity, that he feared for his countrymen, that from the hell of superstition they would sink into the deeper hell of atheism.

India stands not alone in this. The losing confidence in and the gradual

breaking away from old faiths is very marked in heathendom. Does it not appear to be "the *older order* changing yielding place unto the *new*?" or that

"Out of the shadow of night,
The world moves into light;
It is day-break everywhere."

From these, together with such other facts as the increasing possibility and probability of English becoming the universal tongue, the ushering in of a universal reign of peace, (witness the Arbitration Treaty) we believe that the world is being made ready to receive the witnessing of the Gospel, that a crisis is now confronting the church, and that whether the world be taken for Christ or not will be determined *in* and by the present generation.

What a great generation *ours* is! The greatest the world has ever seen! Great because of the mighty past upon which we stand. We are the "Heirs of all the Ages," "the fifth and last of Time's Dramas and her noblest off spring." "Great because of the preparation God has made for us. God himself has seemingly bared his omnipotent right arm to forge weapons for our using, and has opened avenues for the enterprise of this new generation never opened before." Great because of the opportunities and possibilities which God has placed before us. We have endeavored to set some of them before you as we see them. Manifestly they are the work of God. They are his Cloud and Pillar to this generation. What was Israel's relation to these in their day, is *ours* to-day.

They are *far-reaching*. The world's future is to be determined by them. Thoughtful men see this and *tremble*.

God is calling to us thro them. To him we are responsible and shall make answer as to how we use them.

What can we do?

Do not think youth a hindrance. It is a glorious privilege to be young now. Great and sweeping changes are to be made in the progress of Christ's kingdom upon the earth during this present generation; and says a recent writer, "God has commissioned *this* generation *anew* and given it the *purpose* and *grace* to bring the world to the Redeemer's feet."

(1) We can learn what is God's purpose in this generation, find our place therein and promptly *fall into line*. Happy is he who finds what his work is and does it. To do this is to find the highest joy and peace. It is to have the consciousness of working *for* and *with* God in the building up of his kingdom; it is to be a fellow-worker with Jesus Christ.

(2) We can *serve* our generation. "He